

BELLEVUE NETWORK ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING
MINUTES

June 28, 2012
8:30 a.m.

Bellevue City Hall
Room 1E-120

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dick Englund, Jullie Gray, Jeanne Grote, Beverly Heyden, Howard Katz, Hannah Kimball, Bob Megargel, Berta Seltzer, Diana Thompson, Terri Wilson,

MEMBERS ABSENT: Merle Keeney, Bill Merriman, Eileen Rasnack, Blake Werner, Janet Zielasko

STAFF PRESENT: Cathy VonWald & Alex O'Reilly, Department of Parks & Community Services

OTHERS PRESENT: Jess Honcoop, Office of Senator Steve Litzow; Lincoln Vanderveen, Office of Representative Dave Reichart; Paul Inghram, City of Bellevue Planning & Community Development

RECORDING SECRETARY: Teri Ekstrom

WELCOME AND ROLL CALL

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 a.m. by Jeanne Grote who presided. All committee members were present with the exception of Merle Keeney, Bill Merriman, Eileen Rasnack, Blake Werner, and Janet Zielasko.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 3, 2012

There was a motion to accept the minutes as written and the motion was seconded. The motion was voted on unanimously to approve the minutes.

Since the presenter had not arrived yet, it was decided to continue with Committee Reports until he arrived.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Outreach (reported by Cathy VonWald)

Ms. VonWald stated that there was not a meeting this month but the group has been working on several things. They worked at the Strawberry Festival this last weekend. Thank you goes to all of those that worked the Festival. Ms. Thompson accepted the World Elder Abuse Awareness Proclamation at the Council meeting on June 18th and did a great job. On August 28th the

Network will have a table at the Crossroads Farmers Market. Ms. VonWald will send out the volunteer shifts.

Mr. Keeney has submitted his resignation to BNOA because of personal issues. Mr. Katz and Mr. Megargel will co-chair the Outreach Committee.

Ms. Thompson said at the Elder Abuse Proclamation at the City Council meeting she received a standing ovation. She also stated that the article she wrote on the issue was in the Bellevue Reporter online.

Ms. Robinson said she was also at the City Council meeting on Monday and it was the night that the city annexed the new areas into the city. The audience was crowded with people from these new neighborhoods and they seemed very impressed by our presence in the city. She said that Diana did a great job.

Mr. Megargel said he went to Salvation Army and met the new lieutenant working there. He said that he was not hooked into the eastside and would like to attend a meeting. He was going to invite him to the next Outreach meeting.

Mr. Katz stated that there was a discussion at the City Council meeting regarding the community center that they were thinking about building next to the library. He said he spoke on the benefits of having the community center there and the community seems excited to have them site it there.

B. Transportation/Housing (reported by Ms. Grote)

The committee is researching crosswalk crossing times. If there are any crosswalks that you think we need to check them please let Jeanne know and the committee will check them out. In regard to housing the committee is reviewing the ARCH website and will let their webmaster know if there are any corrections that need to be made. The next meeting will be July 23rd at City Hall.

C. Advocacy (reported by Ms. Thompson)

The Advocacy Committee wrote letters to state representatives regarding the Older Americans Act supporting reauthorization. Kirkland and Bellevue both sent the letter to their respective representatives. She noted that there is only a 2% change of passage.

Ms. Thompson said that in 2011 there were bill introduced in regard to medical observation. AARP wrote in support of the bill and right now nothing is happening. Mr. Katz said that he contacted Rep. Reichart's office in regard to this issue. He told him to get the numbers that are affected. Ms. Robinson said that he can just give them the number of residents in Bellevue over the age 75 because it affects everyone. Ms. Gray said she sent everyone the national statistics link with this information but will resend the link. She said the national statistics showed information by state and an overview nationally. Ms. Thompson explained medical observation to the two visitors.

The Advocacy Committee will write another letter. But, it is a national issue and this is really all that we can currently do. The only time you can appeal your medical status is before you leave the hospital. So, it was reiterated that the committee will do a little public information on the issue to get the word out.

Ms. Thompson made a motion to include the Qualis PowerPoint on medical observation on the BNOA website. The presentation was created by Qualus and we made a couple of changes to it. On p. 9 we added an additional step for people with hearing loss and on p. 10 we added the number to Senior Assistance. She made a motion to add this presentation to the internet and the motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. VonWald said that we will have to form a nominating committee for the fall. She said she will send out the information regarding vacancies and applications in September and then they will review the applications and interview in October. She asked who was interested in serving on the nominating committee. Ms. Kimball, Ms. Seltzer, Ms. Heyden, and Ms. Grote volunteered to serve on this committee.

D. Quality of Life Adhoc (reported by Bob Megargel)

No meeting was held.

BEL-RED CORRIDOR UPDATE [PRESENTATION]

Ms. VonWald introduced Paul Inghram from the Planning & Community Development Dept. and thanked him for coming to present to the group.

Mr. Inghram stated that there is currently a lot of commercial activity in the Bel-Red area, such as Coca Cola, Cadman, Safeway, etc. In the next ten years we will see light rail come through the middle of this area and extend to the Overlake area. There are currently a lot of software and technology-type companies in the Bel-Red corridor and we will have the opportunity for future growth with the two transit stations that will be in this area. It will be a different kind of development than what we see in the downtown area with more suburban and only three story building growth. We will preserve the commercial area. The Plan was approved for this area in 2009. Since then Children's Hospital has built their new building and Wright Runstad has a plan to develop the old Safeway site with office buildings and a park. Permitting is underway for the first office buildings. Ms. VonWald asked if ARCH was involved in the housing portion of the development. Mr. Inghram stated that there is a required contribution to affordable housing. A certain amount of the development will be residential with some affordable housing. They have looked at development in other cities and areas (such as Emoryville) to see how they developed and what the timing was. In the Cadman property they have talked about having a Park-N-Ride parking or a demonstration building. In the Vancouver area they have a pre-mix plan in the middle of the activity and development and they seem to coexist well together.

Ms. Thompson said that with the expanding density they need to keep the neighborhoods in mind so as not to impact surrounding neighborhoods with the new growth. Mr. Inghram said that

transportation was considered and they plan on developing facilities in the Bel-Red area that will allow people in that area to use those local facilities instead of having to travel across town. We are trying to make the least impact also by having close proximity to transit, so that there will be less growth in the traffic.

Ms. VonWald said she liked the idea of having a mini-main street so that residents don't have to go downtown as much but can access those services in their area. Mr. Inghram also stated that they found a lot of art and cultural businesses in the area and there will be an Arts Cultural Center.

Ms. Seltzer asked if there are incentives such that the developers will want to build affordable housing rather than just contributing amounts to affordable housing? Mr. Inghram said that after 5 years they will be revisiting the plan to see how it's working. We have looked at whether we can provide affordable housing that enhances other part of the area plan. There are currently incentives for affordable housing and open spaces.

Mr. Megargel asked if they looked to having something similar to Pike Place Market in the area? Mr. Inghram stated that there are 8 acres of open space in the Safeway area that will initially be used for construction staging but they were looking at alternatives such as that for this area.

Ms. VonWald asked when BNOA could give input on the plan. Mr. Inghram stated that the plan will be talked about at the City Council meeting on July 16th. The Council will make comments on the plan that night. He said they are also looking at the transit station by Whole Foods and trying to figure out how to get to the hospitals from there. They are trying to work out a route to make this station work. They plan on partnering with the hospitals to develop a plan.

BREAK

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP REPORTS

- A. Parks & Community Services Board – (Mr. Katz read a report for Ms. Robinson who had to leave early).

The Bellevue Rotary Club has contributed funding for the design and implementation of a “Capacity Park” in place of the current children’s playground at the Downtown Bellevue Park. It is an age-friendly design that will allow individuals of all capabilities to play at the playground, including children and their caregivers.

The City of Bellevue is contributing the funds earmarked for rehab of the existing play area. That money will now be funneled into this new Capability Park. This is a great example of city partnerships that benefit our entire community. Be sure to thank the Bellevue Rotary Club & the city of Bellevue for supporting Age-Free Design.

- B. Eastside Easy Rider Collaborative (Cathy VonWald)

Ms. VonWald stated that the Growing Transit Community Grant was won by Hopelink, who is the fiscal agent for the Easy Rider Collaborative. Hopelink's program coordinator recently left her position. Michelle Ziedman will be taking on the EERC responsibilities in her absence.

Ms. Grote stated that she attended the Travel Ambassador Program training. The program works one-on-one with those that no longer drive. They talk to them about their transportation challenges and get transportation information for them to enable them to get where they need to go.

Ms. VonWald stated when she renewed her license tabs you can now choose to receive bus passes or donate those bus passes to human services agencies. She opted to receive her bus passes and she donated them to the N. Bellevue Community Center. If you choose to, you can do the same also.

C. Eastside Human Services Forum (reported Ms. VonWald)

BNOA members attended the Annual Event on June 7th where they had 90 attendees. It was a very successful event. Older adult issues crossed through each breakout group topic.

D. Eastside Time Bank (Jeanne Grote reporting)

There is now a deduction for seniors to join. The regular fee is \$40 but it is \$15 for seniors over 55 on an as-needed basis. The next potluck is on July 12th at 6:30 at N. Bellevue Community Center with the orientation at 7:30.

Mr. Englund said they should do a study on how seniors can contribute. Ms. VonWald suggested that anyone interested should attend a potluck to get ideas. It is a great community builder.

E. Aging and Disability Services Advisory Council (Ms. VonWald reporting)

Ms. VonWald attended the last meeting, in which they talked about the FD Cares program started in Kent. The program deals with the non-emergency calls that they are receiving. It started in Kent because one of the firefighters has a social services background and starting seeing the need to get resources to these frequent callers. She meets with these people to get them the resources they need.

Ms. Thompson gave some statistics and examples of how the calls have decreased from these frequent callers with this program. They are hoping to branch the program out to the King County EMS and other programs throughout the area.

STAFF REPORT

Ms. VonWald stated that she will be out on medical leave from July 11 – August 12. Alex O'Reilly will be the contact for her in her absence.

Jesse Eller, Aging & Disability Services should be presenting at the meeting in August and give the vision for older adults in King County.

NEW BUSINESS – none

PUBLIC COMMENTS/QUESTIONS - None

UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS

August 2 – Jesse Eller will present for Aging and Disability Services (Ms. O'Reilly covering this meeting for Ms. VonWald)

September 6 – Phil Gordon, KC Prosecutors office, will talk about the Aging Abuse grant

October 4 – Fire Dept. Cares Presentation

Advocacy Committee – the next meeting is cancelled

Outreach Committee – next meeting is July 16th

Transportation/Housing Committee – next meeting is July 23rd

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 10:25 am.